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## ABSTRACT

Disclosed are compositions and processes for preparing polymeric materials having polymerizable units derived from at least one  $C_8$  to  $C_{30}$  alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer, and at least one chain branching unit. The presence of the chain branching unit suprisingly results in the polymeric composition having non-gelled polymer chains. The polymeric compositions are useful as additives for improving the melt strength of thermoplastic resins.